

Ran WEI

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EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Boston Children's Hospital, Harvard Medical School Brookline, MA, USA

Postdoctoral Research Fellow 2021-present

Project: Multidimensional evaluation of the early emergence of executive function and dysfunction

Supervisor: Dr. Charles A. Nelson III

Harvard University Cambridge, MA, USA

Ph.D. in Education 2016-2021

Concentration: Human Development, Learning and Teaching

Secondary Field: Mind, Brain, and Behavior - Language Acquisition; Advisor: Jesse Snedeker

Committee: Meredith L. Rowe (Primary Advisor), Paul L. Harris, and Catherine Snow

Dissertation: Understanding the role of the home environment in Chinese preschoolers' language development

Harvard University Cambridge, MA, USA

Ed.M. in Language and Literacy 2014-2015

Marco Polo Fellow of Harvard University

Tsinghua University Beijing, China

B.A. in English Language and Literature 2010-2014

Recipient of Outstanding Graduate Award (equivalent to *summa cum laude*)

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Developmental psychology; child development; language development; cognitive neuroscience; cultural studies

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Harvard Graduate School of Education Doctoral Research Grant 2020

Harvard Graduate Student Council Conference Grant 2019

Harvard Graduate School of Education Doctoral Travel Grant

Jeanne Chall Reading Lab Doctoral Research Travel Grant

Harvard Graduate School of Education Diversity and Innovation Fund

Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies Essay Award, Harvard University

Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies Summer Research Grant, Harvard University 2018

Harvard Graduate Student Council Summer Research Award

Society for Research in Child Development Student Travel Award 2017

Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Doctoral Fellowship 2016

Marco Polo Fellowship, Harvard University 2014

SPARK Research and Innovation Fellowship, Tsinghua University 2013

SPARK International Research and Innovation Grant, Tsinghua University

University Merit Scholarship, Tsinghua University

PUBLICATIONS

- Wei, R.**, Kirby, A., Naigles, L., & Rowe, M. (Under review). Parents' use of generics with infants: Stability, variability, and implications for language development.
- McCatharn, J., Herbert, K., **Wei, R.**, & Rowe, M. (In press). Avenues for increasing parenting knowledge: Interviewing parents about preferred information sources.
- Choi, A., **Wei, R.**, & Rowe, M. (2021). Show, give and point gestures across infancy differentially predict language development. *Developmental Psychology*, 57(6), 851-862.
- Rowe, M., **Wei, R.**, & Salo, V. (2021). Early gesture predicts later language development. In A. Morgenstern & S. Goldin-Meadow (Eds.), *Gesture in language*. Mouton.
- Ronfard, S.*, **Wei, R.***, & Rowe, M. (2021). Uncovering the linguistic, social, and cognitive skills underlying processing efficiency as measured by the looking-while-listening paradigm. *Journal of Child Language*, 1-24. (***Joint first and corresponding authorship**)
- Wei, R.**, Leech, K., & Rowe, M. (2020). Decontextualized language use during American and Chinese caregiver-child interactions. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, 71, 101214.
- Wei, R.**, Ronfard, S., Leyva, D., & Rowe, M. (2019). Teaching a novel word: Parenting styles and toddlers' word learning. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, 187, 104639.
- Leech, K., **Wei, R.**, Harring, J. R., & Rowe, M. L. (2018). A brief parent-focused intervention to improve preschoolers' conversational skills and school readiness. *Developmental Psychology*, 54(1), 15-28.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Wei, R.**, Gigi Luk, & Rowe, M. (November, 2021). Relations between parental education and sentence processing efficiency among Chinese preschoolers. Poster presented at the 42nd Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development.
- Wei, R.**, Kirby, A., Naigles, L., & Rowe, M. (July, 2021). Parents' use of generics with infants: Stability, variability, and implications for language development. Paper presented at the 2021 International Association for the Study of Child Language Conference.
- Wei, R.**, Leech, K., & Rowe, M. (April, 2021). Decontextualized language in Chinese and American caregiver-child interactions: Similarities, differences, and implications for children's narratives. Paper accepted at the 2021 Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting.
- Wei, R.**, Surrain, S., Rowe, M., & Luk, G. (April, 2021). Exploring relations between toddlers' motor skills and language development. Flash talk accepted at the 2021 Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting.
- Wei, R.**, Kirby, A., Naigles, L., & Rowe, M. (October, 2020). Parents' use of generics with infants: Stability, variability, and implications for language development. Paper presented at the Many Paths to Language Workshop at the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics.
- Wei, R.**, Liszkowski, U., Harris, P., & Rowe, M. (January, 2020). What is the baby "saying"? Adults' interpretation of infants' gestures. Poster presented at the 10th Budapest Central European University Conference on Cognitive Development.
- Wei, R.**, Ronfard, S., Leyva, D., & Rowe, M. (March, 2019). Teaching a novel word: Parenting styles and toddlers' word learning. Paper presented at the 2019 Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting.
- Wei, R.**, Leech, K., & Rowe, M. (March, 2019). Decontextualized language use during American and Chinese caregiver-child interactions. Poster presented at the 2019 Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (cont.)

- Ronfard, S., **Wei, R.**, & Rowe, M. (November, 2017). Uncovering the social and cognitive skills underlying processing efficiency as measured by the looking-while-listening paradigm. Poster presented at the 42nd Annual Boston University Conference on Language Development.
- Wei, R.**, Ronfard, S., & Rowe, M. (March, 2017). Predictors of novel word learning in toddlers. Poster presented at the 2017 Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting.
- Leech, K., **Wei, R.**, Harring, J., & Rowe, M. (March, 2017). Ready for kindergarten: A training program designed to encourage parent-child conversation during the preschool years. Paper presented at the 2017 Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting.

INVITED TALKS

- Wei, R.** (Sep. 2021). Caregiver communicative input and child development: A cross-cultural perspective. Graduate School of Education, Peking University.
- Wei, R.** (June, 2021). Understanding the role of the home environment in Chinese preschoolers' language development. Faculty of Educational Sciences, University of Oslo.
- Wei, R.** (June, 2021). Understanding the role of the home environment in Chinese preschoolers' language development. Faculty of Educational Sciences, University of Oslo.
- Wei, R.** (October, 2019). Decontextualized language in caregiver-child interactions: Cultural patterns and developmental implications. Department of Comparative Linguistics, University of Zurich, Switzerland.
- Wei, R.**, Harris, P., & Rowe, M. (July, 2019). What is the baby "saying"? Adults' interpretation of infants' gestures. The Little World Explorers Lab, Psychological Institute, University of Zurich, Switzerland.
- Wei, R.**, Ronfard, S., Leyva, D., & Rowe, M. (June, 2019). Teaching A Novel Word: Parenting Styles and Toddlers' Word Learning. Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures Colloquium, Tsinghua University, China.
- Wei, R.**, Ronfard, S., Leyva, D., & Rowe, M. (May, 2019). Teaching A Novel Word: Parenting Styles and Toddlers' Word Learning. Language Acquisition Seminar, University of Oslo, Norway.
- Wei, R.**, Leech, K., & Rowe, M. (May, 2019). Decontextualized Language Use During American and Chinese Caregiver-Child Interactions. In Open Seminar: Parent-Child Interaction across Early Development and Cultures, Department of Special Needs Education and Department of Education, University of Oslo, Norway.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Brown University** Providence, RI, USA
Co-Investigator May, 2021-present
 Project: Early socialization during parent-child free play in European American and Chinese American families
 Co-PIs: Jin Li and Yoko Yamamoto
- Harvard University, Graduate School of Education** Cambridge, MA, USA
Co-Founder, PsychEd Seminars August, 2018-present
 Co-founded the PsychEd Seminars and organize weekly presentation/discussion series focusing on interdisciplinary, cross-cultural research.
- Graduate Researcher** Jan. 2018-present
 Project: Relations among music experience, bilingual exposure, attention, and motor skills in early childhood
 Co-PIs: Meredith L. Rowe and Gigi Luk

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (cont.)

University of Zurich, Psychological Institute

Zurich, Switzerland

Visiting Student

May-Aug., 2019

The Little World Explorers Lab (Kleine Weltentdecker),

PI: Moritz Daum

Tsinghua University, Center for the Study of Language and Psychology

Beijing, China

Research Assistant

Nov. 2013-Feb. 2014

Project: Early identification of Chinese children at risk for dyslexia: Implicit knowledge about written language and print-sound link learning ability

Co-PIs: Li Yin and Catherine McBride

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Harvard University, Graduate School of Education

Cambridge, MA, USA

Teaching Fellow

Early Childhood Development in Global Contexts (Instructors: Dana McCoy and Aisha Yousafzai)

Jan. 2020-present

Exploring Quality in Early Childhood Education: Predicting Academic and Social Outcomes (Instructor: Catherine Snow)

Aug. 2018-present

From Language to Literacy (Instructor: Meredith L. Rowe)

Aug.-Dec. 2019

How People Learn (Instructor: Catherine Snow and Matthew Miller)

May-Aug. 2019

Child Rearing, Language, and Culture (Instructor: Meredith L. Rowe)

2018 - 2019

Developmental Psychology (Instructor: Paul L. Harris)

Aug.-Dec. 2018

Developmental Theories of Change (Instructor: Dana McCoy)

Aug.-Dec. 2017

Learning to Talk by Talking: A Developmental Approach to Maximizing Language and Literacy Skills (Instructor: Catherine Snow)

Jun. 2015-Dec. 2015

SERVICE

Advising Research Assistants: Pearl Han Li, Julia Muanjing Wang, Tiffany Qianru Yang, Tracy Ziyang Tan, Jia Yang, Dorothy Sun, Julie Cusano, Zoe Mao, Zhongyu Wei, Shan Zhang, Alissa Guillu

Ad-hoc Peer Review Service: Reading and Writing

PROFICIENCIES

Languages: English (Bilingual); Mandarin (Bilingual); Spanish: Intermediate (B1.2)

Skills: R, STATA, CLAN, PRAAT, Tobii (Studio & Lab), Qualtrics, Adobe Suite